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For Immediate Release

FCC SEEKS COMMENT ON PROMOTING INVESTMENT IN THE 3.5 GHZ BAND

WASHINGTON, October 24, 2017—Today, the FCC proposed revisions to its rules in the 3.5 GHz band to promote investment, keep up with technological advancements, and maintain U.S. leadership in the deployment of next-generation services.

In particular, the FCC seeks comment on changes to the rules governing the second service tier, known as Priority Access Licenses, of the band's novel three-tier framework. These changes include longer license terms with the possibility of renewal; larger geographic license areas; and modifications to the rules governing license auctions, secondary market transactions, and certain technical criteria.

These changes to the licensing and technical rules in the band could help increase incentives for investment, encourage more efficient spectrum use, and promote robust network deployments in both urban and rural communities.

Additionally, over the past few years, it has become clear that the 3.5 GHz band will be a core component of 5G network deployments, with several countries moving forward with policies that will make this band available for such services. These rule changes will facilitate the implementation of 5G networks in this band and accelerate deployment of a promising new generation of wireless technologies for all Americans

Action by the Commission October 24, 2017 by Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (FCC 17-134). Chairman Pai, Commissioners O'Rielly and Carr approving. Commissioner Clyburn concurring. Commissioner Rosenworcel dissenting. Chairman Pai, Commissioners Clyburn, O'Rielly, Carr and Rosenworcel issuing separate statements.

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